

***Critical funding will be used to provide firefighters with the resources they need to protect our local community***

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** - Congresswoman Loretta Sanchez (CA-47) today congratulated the Cities of Garden Grove and Fullerton for receiving over \$47,000 in federal grants for their respective fire departments. The funding, which was awarded through the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) program, will help our local fire departments better protect the health and safety of the public and first-responder personnel.

"I am thrilled that the Cities of Garden Grove and Fullerton are receiving much-needed funding for their fire departments," said Rep. Sanchez. "The California budget crisis has caused pain in communities across the state, but one of the things we can't afford to do is strip resources from our fire fighters and first responders. In Congress, I will continue to fight to ensure Orange County receives its fair share of federal funding so our fire departments can maintain their operations at a time when many stations are cutting back their basic services."

The AFG program, which is administered through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and Department of Homeland Security (DHS), will release \$39,922 in funding for Garden Grove's fire department and \$7,416 for Fullerton's. Nationally, the grant program is an important component of the larger, coordinated effort to strengthen the Nation's overall level of preparedness and ability to respond to fire and related hazards.

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